

For Mr. Griffiths

March 1966

Considerations:

1) Mr. Williamson, at Mr. Anderson's suggestion, asked AMWHIP-1 to comment on the feasibility of having AMIASH-1 come out to see us for briefing purposes. This was done within the past 10 days. AMWHIP-1 said that the moment was not good since Mrs. Cubela had just most recently given birth. AMWHIP should be asked whether he made any call to Havana, sent any message of any sort to Cubela, directly or indirectly, within the last 10 days. Mr. Anderson wishes to point out that AMWHIP-1 could, if he were a Castro agent, have informed the Cubans of our desire to see LASH again. WHIP's personal friendship and loyalty to LASH should be considered against this - to my thinking.

2) ANTRUNK-9, supposedly being used by ACSI, reportedly went into Cuba in December 1964. He was a direct contact of ANTRUNK-10, who was arrested with LASH-1. If TRUNK-9 were arrested (and even released - or is still held) he would have been a lead to TRUNK-10. AMIASH-1 has repeatedly warned us that TRUNK-10 was nervous, feeling cowardly, and would likely talk if arrested. If TRUNK-10 had been arrested first, if he talked, it would lead to LASH. If arrested on TRUNK-9's talk, it would still lead to LASH.

3) AMIASH-1 and Faure Chomen (Minister of Transport) are both old DR Leaders. They had a recent, serious, argument which was reported by Major Alberto MORA Becerra. Mora said that as a consequence, AMIASH-1 would either be arrested or have to leave the country. (This information was undoubtedly reported to Raul Castro.) If Faure Chomen wanted revenge on AMIASH-1 (who called him among other things a "coward" during the 1958 fighting) he would have seen to it that Raul became informed. If Faure Chomen did not seek revenge on AMIASH-1 (for whom

AMIASH-1

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he has exerted himself in the past few years - even to having a traffic ticket fixed in 1964) Paul Castro and FIDEL himself, may see the fight between the two as a way to pay off both. Faure Chosen and Rolando Cubela were the two DR leaders who refused to turn over the palace to Castro on <sup>1-5</sup> January 1969. In addition, Raul and AMLASH-1 have long been at odds - Raul threatening him previously for wearing a Comandante's uniform while not participating in military activities, LASH's blunt and "rotten" answer to Raul, et cetera. Furthermore, Faure embarrassed Fidel greatly at the Marcos Rodrigues trial - and Fidel has been waiting to "get even". This is a good moment to strike at Faure, if Faure <sup>did not and</sup> would ~~not~~ have harmed AMLASH. It would be awkward for Faure to help defend LASH now, in view of the known <sup>between them,</sup> quarrel, without involving himself in the charge. Fidel could easily read into any defense by Faure of AMLASH now a further attempt to interfere with his own "justice".

4) Raul Castro recently said that a purge of the military would be necessary. What better way to begin? It also strikes at the DR - and Faure. Castro and Company have long known of LASH's distaste for them - he's told them to their faces. They've also long known of his conspiracy. LASH is on a list <sup>compiled by Raul</sup> of persons to be arrested immediately if something happens to Fidel. Pineiro also knows of LASH's dissent with the regime.

5) After having told LASH what we would provide (and changing our position - due partially to JFK's death) one should recognize the fact that AMLASH may not want to protect us, due to his disappointment at our refusal to extent a "moral recognition" of his plan. On the other hand, he is undoubtedly well aware that Castro's "mercy" does not extend to "confessors" - witness Marcos Rodrigues and Eloy Gutierrez Mepayo - who recently suffered a severe beating in prison. (Altho it might have been the other prisoners who beat him - though it seems unlikely dur report.)